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## **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

**DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY** 

#### ORIGINAL FILED WITH CLERK

CHAMBERS OF
JEROME B. SIMANDLE
CHIEF JUDGE

November 7, 2013

UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE ONE JOHN F. GERRY PLAZA P.O. BOX 2797 CAMDEN, NJ 08101 (856) 757-5167

Erez Liebermann, AUSA United States Attorney's Office 970 Broad Street, Room 700 Newark, NJ 07102

Bruce Provda, Esq. Provda Law Firm 40 Wall Street, 11th Floor New York, NY 10005

Randy L. Shapiro Global Media Counsel Bloomberg, L.P. 731 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10022

Re: <u>United States v. Drinkman, et al.</u>; 09-cr-626 (Dmitriy Smilianets, Defendant)

Dear Counsel:

I have received two letters, attached, dated August 23, 2013 and October 29, 2013, on behalf of Bloomberg News, which is represented by Ms. Randy L. Shapiro. Bloomberg News seeks to have the Court unseal all the filings in the action, and not just the partially-redacted Indictment that was released on July 26, 2013.

I am writing to direct the United States Attorney to show cause why the remaining filings should not be unsealed. The United States' submission will be due November 15, 2013. If there is no objection, the United States shall so advise.

Bloomberg may submit a reply to the United States' submission if it chooses to do so by November 25, 2013.

I will consider this request at the <u>status conference</u> presently scheduled for <u>Monday</u>, <u>December 2</u>, <u>2013 at 10:00 A.M.</u> before the undersigned in <u>Courtroom 4A</u> in the United States Courthouse in Camden. The Court would permit Ms. Shapiro to participate by telephone upon the record, if she indicates that she chooses to do so.

Very truly yours,

JEROME B. SIMANDLE

Chief U.S. District Judge

JBS/mm

Encs.

# Bloomberg

Bloomberg L.F.

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Aug. 23, 2013

Chief Judge Jerome B. Simandle United States District Court Mitchell H. Cohen Courthouse 1 John S. Gerry Plaza Camden, NJ 08101

Re: U.S. v. Drinkman, 09-cr-626

Dear Judge Simandle:

I am writing to Your Honor on behalf of Bloomberg News, an accredited and global newsgathering organization whose reporter, David Voreacos, has covered the proceedings in the above-referenced action (the "Action"). I write respectfully to request that the filings in the Action be unsealed.

On July 26, 2013, U.S. Attorney Paul Fishman and the U.S. Department of Justice released modestly-redacted copies of the indictment against five defendants in the Action. See <a href="http://www.justice.gov/usao/nj/Press/files/Drinkman,%20Vladimir%20et%20al.%20Indictment%20News%20Release.html">http://www.justice.gov/usao/nj/Press/files/Drinkman,%20Vladimir%20et%20al.%20Indictment%20News%20Release.html</a>, and <a href="http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2013/July/13-crm-842.html">http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2013/July/13-crm-842.html</a>. However, according to PACER, all of the Court filings in the Action, including the indictment released by the government, remain sealed. (The only exception concerns proceedings in Dmitriy Smilianets, 12-mj-3043.)

Under the First Amendment, the public enjoys a presumptive right of access to criminal proceedings. See, e.g., Press-Enterprise Co. v. Superior Court of California, 464 U.S. 501 (1984) ("Press-Enterprise I") (voir dire of potential jurors); Press-Enterprise Co. v. Superior Court, 478 U.S. 1 (1986) ("Press-Enterprise II") (transcripts of a preliminary hearing in a criminal murder trial). Similarly, the Third Circuit has recognized the presumptive right of access to pre-trial court filings in criminal cases. See, e.g., United States v. Smith, 776 F.2d 1104 (3d Cir. 1985) (presumption applied, but was overcome, with respect to bill of particulars supporting an indictment). Given that, and in light of the government's publication of the indictment, we respectfully request that all of the filings in the action be unsealed.

Chief Judge Jerome B. Simandle August 23, 2013 Page 2

If the Court has any questions or requires any additional information, I can be reached at (212) 617-0814. We appreciate the Court's consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy L. Shapiro

Global Media Counsel

# **Bloomberg**

October 29, 2013

### **BY OVERNIGHT COURIER**

Chief Judge Jerome B. Simandle United States District Court Mitchell H. Cohen Courthouse 1 John S. Gerry Plaza Camden, NJ 08101

Re: U.S. v. Drinkman, 09-cr-626

Dear Judge Simandle:

I am writing to follow up on my August 23<sup>rd</sup> letter to the Court, which set forth Bloomberg News's request that the filings in the above-referenced action be unsealed. For ease of reference, I am enclosing a copy of my original letter and would welcome the opportunity to answer any questions the Court may have so that our request may be fully considered. I can be reached at (212) 617-0814.

RECEIVED

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JEROME B. SIMANDLE U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

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Respectfully submitted,

Randy L. Shapiro Global Media Counsel